

CHURCH OF GOD
Evangel

MOTHER'S DAY
ISSUE

MAY 8, 1961



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Readers' Response

To the editor:

I would like to let you know that I enjoy receiving the *Evangel* in my home. It has been a marvelous blessing to me. I praise the Lord for all that is being accomplished. I look forward each week to receiving mine.

I want to say that the article by Sister Bobbie Lauster, "I Am My Brother's Keeper," was soul stirring and wonderful. I didn't get half way through until I began to cry and call on God. We need to realize that this lost and dying world needs someone to care and get in touch with God on their behalf.

I thank God for His mercy to me and for His blessings.

—MARY KOCH

Baltimore, Md.

To the editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to compliment you for the fine work that you are doing in our Church of God *Evangel*. I have greatly enjoyed the editorials and think that they are an asset to all of our people. I have not found any reading anywhere that is so encouraging and inspiring as your editorials have been. I also appreciate the other material in the paper and feel that the Church of God *Evangel* can be a real blessing to all of our people who will take it into their homes and read it and let their children have it to read.

—P. H. McCARN

Overseer of Texas

To the editor:

I was stirred by the article in the February 27 *Evangel* entitled "Where We Came From, Why We Are Here, and Where We Are Going" by Lawrence Weaver. How the world needs to wake to this realization.

God is still in the delivering business for all needs. This is true especially among our military personnel where there are so few who really know Christ as their personal Saviour. I especially point them to the living Word of God.

—SGT. ROBERT L. DORMINEY,

Moses Lake, Wash.

Cover: Photograph by H. Armstrong Roberts

CHURCH OF GOD *Evangel*

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible. 2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor. 4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins. 5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. 6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost. 7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people. 8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart. 9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. 10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. 11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement. 12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet. 13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years. 14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

The Church of God Publishing House

E. C. Thomas, Publisher

H. Bernard Dixon, Circulation Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single Subscription, per year	\$2.00
Single Copy	.05

Entered as second-class matter under act of March 3, 1879, at Cleveland, Tennessee. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, act of October 3, 1917. Authorized August 23, 1918.



Editorial

SOME ARE MOTHERS

MANY WOMEN HAVE brought children into the world; some of them are mothers. There is a difference, you know, in bearing a child and being a true mother. True motherhood is as much a matter of the mind, the heart, and the soul as it is of the body.

The mere biological process of giving birth to a child has never made any woman a true mother. This consists of proper mental and spiritual processes along with the necessary biological processes. The fact that there are those who have become mothers biologically without doing so spiritually and morally is one of the causes of the sad plight of our world today. No embittered, sardonic, pants-wearing, cigarette-smoking, liquor-drinking, nasty-tongued, club-loving, child-despising woman has any right to call herself a "mother" even though she may have brought children into the world. Such women may physically have given birth to a child, but they are by no means spiritually and morally responsible mothers.

We should all be thankful that this is not the case with most mothers. Most of them are mothers in the truest and noblest sense of the word. All honor under heaven is bestowed upon such a mother: Holy Scripture lauds her, her children rise up and call her blessed, only the fairest fruits of the earth are fit tribute to her, and one day out of every 365 belongs to her alone. No mortal personality has ever gained greater recognition.

Practically every woman alive longs to be a wife and a mother. Such a desire is good and proper, for it is both natural and divine. Though it is true that there are other noble callings of God and high peaks of attainment chosen for and by some women, there is no higher or nobler achievement than that of motherhood. God Himself has frequently attested this, and has used mothers more than any other human agency in the propagation of His kingdom on earth.

Because motherhood seems so ordinary, so commonplace, so unglamorous, few persons give it its proper place among the powers of the world. A mother's influence upon her children is second to none, and the deft work of her hands and heart is molded into the lives of her children as long as they live. Naturally, such tremendous influence thrusts upon every mother an equally tremendous responsibility. She has a responsibility to love and train her children for God; she is the nearest thing to God's love on earth.

WHEN GOD SOUGHT to express His own tenderness and compassion toward His people, He could find no more descriptive term than that of likening His comfort to the comfort of mothers (*Isaiah 66:*

13). When Jesus's heart near burst with compassion for Jerusalem, He likened His love to that of a creature mother: "... How often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!"

It was a mother's love that compelled Rizpah to watch over her dead, when they were forsaken by all others, so that no wild beast would molest their bodies (*2 Samuel 21:10*).

It was a mother's love which drove Mary to watch over her dead Son, the Christ of God (*John 19:25*).

It has been aptly said that "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." This means that the mother's part in the formation of her child will remain with him throughout his life and that what he becomes, be it good or bad, can in part be traced back to the woman who bore and trained him.

When the Israelites needed a man to deliver them from Egyptian bondage, it was through Jochebed's motherly devotion that God was able to spare the life of Moses and train him for his ordained task (*Exodus 2:3, 8*).

Timothy, the young friend of Paul, was commended and renowned for his faith, but it was from his mother that his faith was drawn by him (*2 Timothy 1:5*).


One of the most beautiful passages in all the Bible is a record of those things taught to Lemuel by his mother (*Proverbs 31*). After King Lemuel finished his record of his mother's words, he began a eulogy of what is considered the ideal wife and mother. Perhaps nowhere in literature is there another such account of virtuous womanhood. Many scholars believe that he has merely pictured what he considers the ideal and ultimate in womanhood; others feel that he has given us a glimpse of the character of some actual woman whom he knew, presumably his own mother. If this is true, then there has never been another such tribute paid a mother by her son.

These are but a few of the Biblical attestations to the tremendous influence of a true mother.

A true mother?

Yes. Not merely one who has given birth to a child, but one who has accepted and reared him and given him a part of herself. When we see that woman, let us, along with her children, arise and call her blessed.

Charles W. Cunn



the Glory of God

THE DESCRIPTIVE words of the Psalmist breathe of life and freshness as he looks out on the work of God's fingers. Viewing creation in its silent testimony to the Creator causes the heart to leap with joy. The beauty and vastness of God's creation overwhelm our finite minds. The deep-blue sky with its clustering stars, the splendor of the setting sun, the rippling waves of the ocean, the towering mountains and flower-bedecked hillsides are but a few of the objects impressed with the signature of God. The soul of man is lifted in adoration to God as we observe the wonders of His creation.

What profusion is there in His works! When the

trees blossom there is not a single breastpin, but a whole bosomful of gems; and of leaves they have so many suits that they can throw them away to the winds all summer long. What unnumbered cathedrals has He reared in the forest shades, vast and grand, full of curious carvings, and haunted evermore by tremulous music; and in the heavens above, how do stars seem to have flown out of His hand faster than sparks out of a mighty forge! — H. W. Beecher.

The eternal power of the God-head can be understood by the

things that are made (Romans 1: 20). As we look through nature, we look up to God. The world is full of possibilities. The Great Architect of heaven and earth had man in mind when He laid out His plans. The whole structure of the world was molded by God and became the sphere of the redemption of the sinner. The shifting systems of false religion are continually changing, but the gospel of Jesus Christ is the same forever. The race of man is on the move

By Ruth Starnes

Greenwood, South Carolina

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard," Psalm 19:1-3.

continually. Let us soar into new latitudes with God to attain more spiritual light.

The work of redemption is the greatest work in the world. Jesus was, and is, concerned with the welfare of human beings. The drama of life continues. Our aim should be to engage divine help for safety. The justice of God demands future punishment for sin, but His grace offers security in heaven for the penitent. The penalty for sin should deter one from sin, for God is on the side of righteousness. The course of man upon the stage of life must constantly be guided by the Word of God. His soul must be nourished with the manna from above. Life is not an eternal road of bliss; yet the bracing atmosphere of its roughness should stimulate us to steadier steps.

David cried out in a moment of great ecstasy, "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my

high tower" (Psalm 18:2).

Paul, in stating the Christian hope, said, "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38, 39).

Many unstable persons want to use religion as a safety belt to venture into the depths of worldliness; but they will suffocate in the experiment if they are not careful. Jesus purchased our redemption by His shed blood on the cross of Calvary. The debt of sin was paid for by His sacrifice. All man needs to do is to accept His salvation by faith in that shed blood. Let us lift our eyes in faith to Him. God has given all power in heaven and earth to Jesus. He is able to wield the sword of judgment, but He longs to save man from that penalty. He holds outstretched hands to the human race in an invitation to salvation from sin.

In the darkness of this life there are valleys to be crossed and mountains to be climbed. The trials of adversity along the way tend to dampen the spiritual atmosphere; but never doubt, God holds the future in His hands. We shall never wear a crown in heaven unless

we bear the cross on earth. As we walk amid the heat of trials, God will be by our side to help. Salvation produces an undisturbed conscience, a serene mind, a glorious hope in the heart of the Christian. The glory of God shines out from the soul of the redeemed. As nature obeys the laws of God, revealing His glory, each saint must be obedient to the Creator. The Christian is a pillar of virtue in his community. His name is written in love, kindness and mercy on the hearts of his associates.

Our Lord God doeth work like a printer, who setteth up the letters backward; we see and feel well His setting, but we shall see the print yonder—in the life to come.—Luther.

The glory of God is a source of comfort to mortal man. The splendor of the Lord is evidenced at every turn of the way. He stands in the pathway of streaming humanity, beckoning us to higher heights with Him. There is no excuse for failure, because every provision necessary is supplied. The Holy Spirit is our Helper and Guide. The Scriptures enlighten the mind, teaching us the way of righteousness. The lamp of eternal truth shines brightly. Submit yourself to God in love and thanksgiving. Accept His blessings in your life.





Illustrated by Walter Ambrose

THE TWO RELIGIONS

*A woman sat by a hearthside place
Reading a book, with a pleasant face,
Till a child came up, with a childish frown,
And pushed the book, saying, "Put it down."
Then the mother, slapping his curly head,
Said, "Troublesome child, go off to bed;
A great deal of Christ's life I must know
To train you up as a child should go."
And the child went off to bed to cry,
And denounce religion—by and by.*

*Another woman bent over a book
With a smile of joy and an intent look,
Till a child came up and jogged her knee,
And said of the book, "Put it down—take me."
Then the mother sighed as she stroked his head,
Saying softly, "I never shall get it read:
But I'll try by loving to learn His will,
And His love into my child instill."
That child went to bed without a sigh,
And will love religion—by and by.*



SEND THEM TO BED WITH A KISS

*O mothers, so weary, discouraged,
Worn out with the cares of the day,
You often grow cross and impatient,
Complain of the noise and the play;
For the day brings so many vexations,
So many things go amiss;
But mothers, whatever may vex you,
Send the children to bed with a kiss!*

*The dear little feet wander often,
Perhaps from the pathway of right,
The dear little hands find new mischief
To try you from morning till night;
But think of the desolate mothers
Who'd give all the world for your bliss,
And, as thanks for your infinite blessings,
Send the children to bed with a kiss!*

*For some day their noise will not vex you,
The silence will hurt you far more;
You will long for their sweet, childish voices,
For a sweet, childish face at the door;
And to press a child's face to your bosom,
You'd give all the world for just this!
For the comfort 'twill bring you in sorrow,
Send the children to bed with a kiss!*

MRS. CHARLES W. CONN



*"... as thy servant
was busy here and
there, he was gone."*

1 Kings 20:40

the BRIEF AND BUSY YEARS

CONCERN WAS ETCHED on her face as my friend of many years told me that her son, now a young man, had just entered the armed forces of our country. All too quickly he had passed through dependent childhood into young manhood. Now he was gone from her watch care and guidance.

She went on to tell me how the father had been almost shocked with grief when it dawned on him that his son was now gone from the scope of his control and direction. Business had often kept the father away from home, which gave him all too little time for companionship with his growing son. While the father was "busy here and there," his child was gone. Now the brief and fleeting days of childhood training were gone forever.

What had not been done, could not be done.

This crashing realization is enough to shock any parent who one day discovers that the small child, so slow in growing, has suddenly grown beyond his reach. If the childhood training has been adequate, all will be well; but if not, it is too late for repair.

This, or a similar situation, comes sooner or later to every parent. God has given us a mandate—a charge to care for the eternal souls of our children. It was not a careless but a wise Providence that placed in our hands each precious infant life with its helpless body and unimpressed mind. God has ordained that we

should mold this plastic and dependent life for time and, what is far more important, for eternity. We hold the destiny of each child in our hands.

This being true, we must come to realize very early, even in the days of our young parenthood, that there is no time to be wasted in the training of our children. Even one wasted day is too much. During the years that we are bound down with small children we may take it for granted that childhood will last indefinitely. But that is not true. The years of development and training are all too short—and each year brings us nearer to their end.

I am well aware that responsibility weighs very heavily on mothers, but let us always be mindful that with the responsibility there is also an opportunity. These two are always hand in hand. Where one is, there is the other also. When one passes, the other is gone also.

The greatest need of every child is the constant care and influence of Christian parents in the environment of a Christian home.

THE IMPORTANCE of child life and training was recognized and emphasized in the early Jewish home. Flavius Josephus, speaking of Jewish methods of training, said, "Our principal care is to educate our children, and we think it to be the most necessary business of our home life." In God's instruction to His chosen people in Deuteronomy 6:7, 9, He commanded,

Thou shalt teach [my words] diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Their faithfulness to this commandment helped to preserve both the Jewish race and their religion.

Notice also that Christ our Lord was never too busy in all the pressing importance of His ministry to find time for the children who came to Him. To Jesus, children were very important. He always had time for them.

The growth of the Roman Catholic Church in America and throughout the world today is largely due to their diligence in the religious education of their children. This plan was first used during the Reformation by Ignatius Loyola and Francis Xavier. In an effort to save the Roman Church from the sweeping inroads of Protestantism, which was threatening their church in Europe, they determined to raise up a new generation for Catholicism. This they planned to do by the education of children. The plan worked. It has been working for the Catholics ever since.

We may learn much from the words of Xavier, "Give me the children until they are seven and any one may have them afterwards."

Religion was preserved in the days of colonial America because the home was a unit, where parental authority and discipline prevailed and where the mother and father worked together and worshipped together, leading their families with them.

Children today especially need the presence and

companionship of their parents. Under the chapter heading "Hearthstones," Sidney W. Powell states,

At a conference on delinquency prevention held in Chicago, a boy fifteen years of age said: "If a child knows that he will have fun by getting to know his parents better, he will stay home. But if, when he is home, they aren't or they just read the paper, he will go out and stir up some excitement for himself."

A girl of the same age said she did not think adults realize "how much children want the companionship of their parents." What greater evangelistic opportunity is offered Christian parents than that which comes through fellowship with their children?¹

RECENTLY MY ATTENTION was arrested by the example of a great mother mentioned in a book on *Mothers of America*. Mrs. Emma Clarissa Clement, a colored mother hampered by the limitations of a segregated society and of meager income, well earned the title of American Mother of 1946. Of her seven children, there were two college professors, one college president and preacher, a Red Cross leader, an educational administrator in Haiti, a nationally known church missionary executive, and an army chaplain.

This was an amazing accomplishment. I was especially interested in her explanation of how it was done. "I kept an eye on them when they were small," she said. "I was there when they needed me."

The keynote of parental influence is constancy. The late Dr. Clarence H. Benson wrote, "The welcome that awaits the child when he comes into the world should await him every time he comes home."

When he feels that we truly care for him and are there when he needs us, our child will be more easily led into the right way spiritually. No business is so important that it relieves us of this primary charge from God. It is not a work that can be deferred until a more convenient time. The opportunity comes for a short time, then is gone.

Day by day, little by little, precept upon precept, with faithfulness and love we must fulfill the most important of all life's obligations: the inclining of our children's hearts and minds toward Christ.

*If I could only follow,
Little son, little son,
Your way by hill and hollow
'Til your long road's done!
You have so many miles to go,
So many things to meet
Where I can never, never guide
Your careless feet . . .
But I can only strive to build you
strong and wise
Before your path leads far from me
and childhood dies.*

1. Sidney W. Powell, *Toward the Great Awakening*, (New York: Abingdon-Cokesbury), p. 111.



In this unique club, members

PREPARE FOR THE PARSONAGE

By Mrs. William J. Dobben

Motto: "She serveth best who loveth best."

JANE AND HER HUSBAND were typical Christian young people. They faithfully attended church services, took part in the church activities and found their places within a local congregation. They went to high school, knew the dilemma of an uncertain future, and groped to find God's will for their lives. Somewhere they met, fell in love, and were married. Perhaps the young husband had not felt God's call into the ministry before marriage, or else he found the one he loved early in life and felt the need of a wife to help him in his struggle to prepare himself to enter the ministry.

Many of these typical young couples make their way to Lee College each year. Here the husbands enroll in classes, obtain part-time employment, and struggle to prepare themselves as best they can for the great marathon race of the Christian life—the ministry.

The sacrifices and hardships these couples face are many and varied. More often than not it is impossible for both of them to attend Bible college. Quite frequently, couples arrive for school with small children, while others experience for the first time the joys and frustrations of parenthood after they begin college training. The young wives and mothers feel, just as keenly as do their husbands, a need for help and counsel if they are to become the helpmate to

their minister-husbands which God would have them to become. In spite of their motherhood duties and outside jobs, many of these young ladies take active part in a club especially dedicated to training and counseling future ministers' wives.

The Ministers' Wives' Club evolved from a Happy Home Circle which Sister Alda B. Harrison organized in the 1940's. From the beginning the Circle was dedicated to strengthening the ties in Christian homes. In the meetings young mothers from all walks of life found fellowship and studied how to become better and more effective Christian wives, mothers, and homemakers.

The Happy Home Circle in Cleveland, Tennessee, was under the direct sponsorship of Sister Harrison until illness prohibited her participation. At that time, the club began the tradition of electing at the end of each school year a sponsor and co-sponsor for the club. Mrs. Charles W. Conn and Mrs. R. Leonard Carroll were the first sponsors to serve the club after Sister Harrison. The wives of ministerial students at the college proved to be the most interested persons and from the Happy Home Circle originated the Ministers' Wives' Club, as it is now known.

A surging desire to better equip themselves for service is prevalent among the club members. Each feels a need to better understand, first of all, her own role as wife and mother. The realization that

(Continued on page 11)

Photograph of Lee College Ministers' Wives' Club: Seated (l. to r.): Mesdames Travis Porter; Charlie Ramsey, vice-president; Thomas Wilson, president; Charles W. Conn, sponsor; William J. Dobben, co-sponsor; Harold Stevens, secretary-treasurer; Ernest

Black; Aaron Lavender. Standing (l. to r.): Mesdames G. A. Swanson; Ray McMullen; David Jacobs; John Helms; E. L. Turner; Claude Thompson; Charlie Wiles; Donnie Weaver; Dean McKinney; Bill Thompson; L. E. Pate and Arnold Thornton.

Behold Thy Mother

By Ralph E. Northrup

Pastor, Deerfield, Virginia

AS JESUS SAID unto the disciple, "Behold Thy Mother!"; so on the national Mothers' Day here in the United States this May, let us lift up our eyes and take a special look at Mother. If she is not still living, let your thoughts dwell upon the memory of your dear mother. Yes, "Behold Thy Mother!"

Remember a mother's love is the next thing to the love of God, and it is the foundation of a real home.

Mothers are the ones who have the major part in molding the lives of the men and women of our great nation, America. Strange, but true, there are many that may forget Dad; but never forget Mother. It has happened that fathers have driven their sons and daughters from home because of some disgraceful act or crime. They have refused to see them again and commanded them never to darken the door of the home again. But Mother still loves and yearns for them, often risking her life and her position as wife—even as much as she loves her husband, the father of the children—just to be near them or just to see them once more.

Thomas Edison said, "My mother was the making of me." Abraham Lincoln said, "All I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." Evangelist F. A. Mills sang at his mother's funeral:

"Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, BEHOLD THY MOTHER! And from that hour the disciple took her unto his own home" (John 19:25-27).

"Oh, mother, when I think of thee; 'Tis but a step to Calvary, Thy gentle hand upon my brow; Is leading me to Jesus now."

"BEHOLD THY MOTHER!" What kind of a mother is she? What has she done for you? What have you done for her? Do you honour your mother and show her often you love her and appreciate her? Do you do your best to make her declining years more comfortable and enjoyable? Is your mother a Christian? If so, you are indeed rich even though you may not have much of this world's goods and may have to work hard to make a living. If you are not a Christian, you should follow her example and accept Christ now, thus making her happier than ever. Such news would be better to her than a costly present or some gift you could bestow.

On Mothers' Day, go out of your

way to do something special for your mother. Do this not only on Mothers' Day but every day from now on.

Remember, it was mother who washed your dirty hands, face and feet when you were but a child. She later taught you how to wash your own hands and face and feet. She often tucked you into bed, looked after your comfort; and if she was a Christian, she knelt by your bed and prayed for you. She taught you your first good-night prayer, then patted you with tender hands and gave you a good-night kiss.

When you bruised your knee or cut your finger, it was she to whom you ran screaming, "Mamma, Mamma!" She tenderly told you to "Hush!" and cleaned and bandaged the injury, often kissing the injured part and saying, "Now, honey, don't cry. Mamma will fix it for you." Then she would wipe your tears away.

It was your mother that scrubbed your soiled clothes, or sat up late mending and darning so that everything would be nice for you the next day when you went out to play with your friends or went merrily off to school with a nicely filled dinner pail full of good things to eat. It was she who slipped a hard-earned coin in your pocket to buy an extra treat now and then.

Yes, mothers often deny them-

selves some of the food so that you could have much more to eat. She knew you were growing and needed wholesome food for strength. She would go without a needed dress or shoes so that you could have nicer and costlier clothes.

Maybe you never stopped to think about this; it is possible you never knew. Yes, Mother did a lot for you, and you ought to thank God for Mother and appreciate her more.

A dying soldier, lying semiconscious, burning with fever, on a hospital cot behind the fighting lines during World War I, was visited by his mother. She walked softly to his bed-side and laid her tender hand lightly upon his fevered brow. Although he could not see her, nor had heard her voice, he knew her by the touch of her hand. He said faintly before he died: "That's Mother's hand."

The highest honor you could bestow on your mother, living or deceased, whether she is a Christian or not, is to give your heart to Jesus, the Son of the Living God. Let Him be your personal Saviour; then if your mother is not a Christian, lead her to Jesus.



PREPARE FOR THE PARSONAGE

(Continued from page 9)

God has placed mothers in homes for a purpose is woven into the club programs and purposes.

The ladies want to be effective mothers. They seek ways to give their children the protection which Jochebed gave to Moses (she arranged for Pharaoh's daughter to adopt him so that his life would be spared), the training which Eunice gave to Timothy (he knew the Scriptures from his youth), and the spiritual guidance which Hannah gave to Samuel (she dedicated him to God when he was a child).

They call upon experienced persons to help them learn to budget the flexible, uncertain income of the parsonage, to make the sometimes uninviting, inadequate, living facilities provided for her family into a warm, comfortable refuge for her minister-husband and their children. They search for guidance for the times when the wife must be more than an ordinary wife and mother—for those times when she must provide strength and succor for her husband. Each learns to expect her husband to belong to a congregation, yet take unto himself, in a sense, the sins and burdens of his people. Without the Source to which he has unlimited access and the quiet reassurance of a spiritually established wife, he could not serve.

While recognizing that any wife's first responsibility is to her husband, children, and home, the members of the Ministers' Wives' Club also wish to prepare themselves to serve as workers in the local congregation. They study various areas of church activities and the role of the minister's wife in relationship to them.

It is fitting that we pay tribute on this Mother's Day to the young wives and mothers of the Ministers' Wives' Club at Lee College. Although the organization is recognized and encouraged by the school's administrators, it is perpetuated solely by the interest of the young women who are so closely associated with the school, yet cannot themselves be students.

These young ladies are compelled by their dedication to Christ to find ways to better serve Him. Their purpose can perhaps be summarized as: "Fellowship and instruction by which we can become more effective wives, mothers, homemakers, and friends; and by which we can become responsible church workers and citizens in the churches and communities in which we find ourselves." Their encouragement is found in 2 Corinthians 12:9, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness."



SUNDAY SCHOOL

AND YOUTH

Sunday School Is a Family Affair

By J. Martin Baldree, Jr.

A YOUNG SAILOR stood with his wife in front of the altar and presented their baby to the minister to be dedicated. He was home on a hurried week-end trip to see his newborn boy and to be present for the dedication. This young couple was assuming their responsibility for the physical, mental, moral, social, and spiritual welfare of their first child.

The primary instrument in the Christian education of children is the home. It has been so recorded since ancient times, "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be upon your heart; and thou shalt teach them, diligently unto thy children. . . ." (Deuteronomy 6:6, 7 R.S.V.). An excellent example of religious training in the home is recorded in 2 Timothy 1:5 where Paul commended the young man Timothy, ". . . the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice. . . ."

These statements in no way minimize the place and importance of the church in Christian education. Christian education and training of children begin in the home, but it does not end there. Especially since the beginning of the Sunday School movement, the church has been an ally with the family in Christian education.

In his book, *A Christian Approach to Education*, Dr. H. W. Byrne says: "Perhaps the most outstanding function of the Sunday School, overlooked by many church members, is that of evangelism. It is common knowledge now that the great majority of church members and conversions take place in the ranks of the Sunday School. Furthermore, it is a place for growth in Christian knowledge and character. It is a training station, preparing its

membership for service in building the kingdom of God. . . . One can note the testimonies of thousands of people to the effect that the Bible and the Sunday School have meant much in the shaping of their character." If the Sunday School does these things (and a good Sunday School will do much more than these), it is worthy of the support of the whole church and every member and his family.

Many parents do not realize the importance of Sunday School. They send their children to Sunday School rather than bringing them. Other parents who come to Sunday School refuse to share in the working and teaching responsibilities. They lack a vision of the importance of Bible training. But parents who fully realize they are accountable to God for the Christian training of their child will gladly give their whole-hearted cooperation to the Sunday School and all of its work. Possibly some parents have never been intelligently approached about their responsibilities to the Sunday School. Here are some suggestions for the Sunday School to give to a parent:

1. Bring your child regularly and on time, unless he is sick or has a reason equal to that which the public school requires for absence.
2. Show an interest in the work the child is doing in his Sunday School class. Help him with his lesson assignments and be sure he memorizes the memory verse each week.
3. Express appreciation to the Sunday School teacher for the interest he has in your child; welcome visits and telephone calls to the child.
4. Take an active part in the Sunday School either in his class or as an officer or teacher.

5. Live a consistent Christian life in the home and support the church and its teachings.

If Sunday School is a family affair, the church also has a responsibility to do its part. The church should do the following things as a minimum:

1. Organize a program that meets the needs of each member of the family—baby, junior, teen-ager, mother, father, grandparents.
2. Provide leaders who are trained to lead. This includes regular attendance and well-prepared plans for the job each Sunday.
3. Work to have facilities to care for each family member. This requires an age-graded Sunday School with a class for every age. This means adequate classroom space plus a properly supervised nursery for babies.
4. Provide and use properly graded Sunday School literature. Don't "short change" your pupils by being skimpy on literature and supplies. The money given in Sunday School should be used first to provide for the Sunday School. Then if any is left over, let it help support the church.
5. Staff the Sunday School with officers and teachers who have a personal interest in each pupil. The teachers should know and respect each pupil as a person—this requires home visitation.

Under the pressures of modern living in America—the many threats from our secular society and the outside atheistic ideologies—we must unify the efforts of the church and the home to accomplish our goal; viz., Christian education of our families NOW. In times like these . . . the family needs the Sunday School.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS A FAMILY AFFAIR!



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Testimonies

Healed of Kidney Infection

BROXTON, Ga.—The third week of August, 1960, I had an attack of kidney stones with infection. About every 3 or 4 weeks thereafter, these attacks reoccurred until I had had 5 of them. The doctor sent me to a specialist to have some X rays made to see what my trouble was. While I was in the hospital, my church's ladies' prayer band met at a sister's house and prayed. Two days later when I went for the report, the X rays showed there was nothing wrong with my kidneys.

I promised the Lord I would preach more divine healing from now on. I am praising the Lord for healing.
—C. N. O'Kelly

Receives Baptism After 15 Years

ROCKWOOD, Tenn.—This is my testimony that I promised to the Lord. I have been a member of the Church of God for 15 years. I have prayed for the Holy Ghost Baptism, but I never received it until I got to the place I was willing to give up everything. Most of my trouble was that I wouldn't yield to the Lord as I should. I thought I was doing all I could, but I found I wasn't. I went to the altar the first night of January to pray a simple prayer. I was not praying for the Holy Ghost that night, but that was when He came in. Now I am one of the happiest persons in the world. I want to be a real soul-winner for Christ.
—Mrs. Wm. Curtis

Test Negative After Prayer

I want to thank the Lord for hearing and answering prayer about a month ago. I was very sick and the doctor had me to take a cancer test. I prayed and asked the Lord to heal me, and I promised I would send my testimony to the *Evangel*. The test came back negative for which I am praising the Lord. I still have high blood pressure. Pray for the

complete healing of my body and for my unsaved children that God will save them.
—Nancy Lawson

Healings in Home Prayer Meeting

GADSDEN, Ala.—On January 15, 1961, we had a prayer meeting in our home. When we prayed for the sick, I promised the Lord that if He would heal a young man's eyes I would send his testimony to the *Evangel*. The young man said, "I've never had good eyes; I've had glasses twice, but they did not help any. Doctors said my eyes were diseased, but I know God can heal me." One month later he was here at prayer meeting again and praised the Lord for doing such a wonderful job. He is healed and ready to preach the gospel. He is Rev. Jack Guttery, a member of

the Centre Church of God.

Also, Sister Bob Ragan was completely healed that day of a back injury from which she had suffered terribly for three days. On the previous Saturday night she could not get ease in any position and did not sleep all night. God instantly healed her.

My husband was also suffering that day, and God healed him.

We truly praise the Lord for His healing power and the way He blesses in the prayer meetings in our home and at the Tabor Church of God. Our pastor, Brother J. D. Turner, is a wonderful man of God.

—Mrs. B. K. Herring

Healed of Ulcers

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Praise the Lord for healing me of ulcers! I promised Him if He would heal me I would testify through the *Evangel*. I laid the *Evangel* on my body and got better, but didn't keep my promise; therefore, I got worse. I couldn't keep anything on my stomach; I became very sick and weak; I vomited blood; I was scared. This was on Saturday. I prayed and asked God to please give me strength to go to church on Sunday. I believed I would be healed if I could go to church. I did feel better Sunday night so I went to church and was prayed for. Thank God, I was instantly healed. Thank the Lord for it all.
—Herman H. Poe

BAPTIZED, JOINS CHURCH OF GOD

JACKSONVILLE, Ala.—In 1958 I came to the U.S.A. from Berlin, Germany. I met my husband there as a soldier. I didn't know anything about the saving grace of Jesus and I had never heard about the power of the Holy Ghost.

But I praise the Lord for what He has done for me. After I was here for about one year the Lord saved me and my husband, sanctified us, and baptized us with heaven's Holy Ghost at the Church of God in Jacksonville, Alabama. A short time after that, my husband and I joined the Church of God in Jacksonville.

In the sight of God it doesn't matter what nationality a person is, where a person comes from or what language a person speaks; Jesus loves everybody; He died for everybody, and most of all Jesus wants to save everybody. It has been the happiest time in my life since I have my hand in the hand of the Lord. Jesus is the best friend to me.

Sometimes when I get homesick

for my people or when I feel lonely I have a little talk with my Lord and I am all right again. The Lord answers my prayers; He heals my body, and He is with me wherever I am. I praise the Lord from the depth of my soul that one day I heard His glorious gospel and that He set me free from all my sins.

Just recently my little girl, two years old, was very sick. She had kidney-trouble and was passing blood. The doctor said he had never heard of a little girl having trouble like this. He said that it was very unusual. But there is nothing too unusual or impossible for our Lord. Some precious sisters helped us pray, and praise the Lord, we heard from heaven; God healed her. She is perfectly all right now. I give all the praise to my Saviour Jesus Christ.

I would like for all Christians to help me pray that the Lord will see fit that I could go to Germany and tell my loved ones and other people the wonderful story of Jesus and what He has done for me.

—Chris Shealy

THE MOTHERS OF THE WORLD



remind us that Christ has said, "Whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother." But how shall they do the will of him "in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?"

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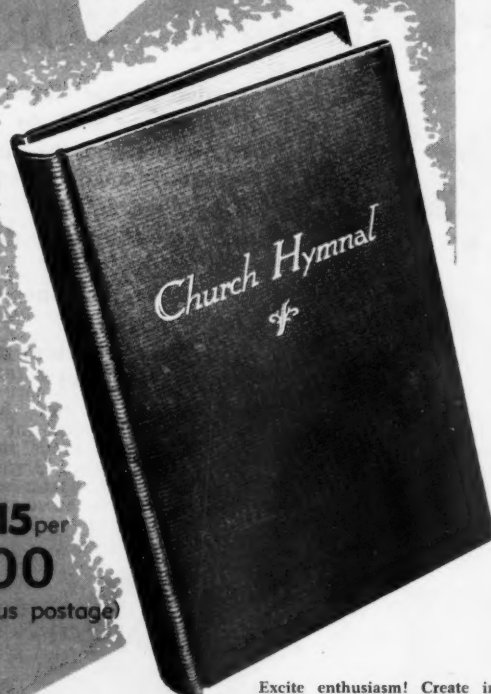


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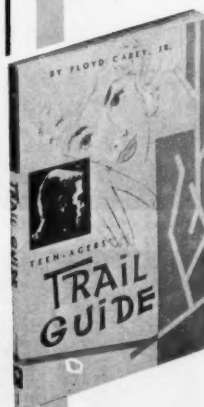
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